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*Central grant for activities against filarial infection in the Madras State*

* 295 *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleasd to state—

(*a*) the total amount received by the State Government from the Central Government by way of grant for carrying out curative, preventive and research activities against filarial infection in the State of Madras; and

(*b*) the total amount spent in the Malabar Coastal area during the year 1955–56?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: (*a*) The total Central grant to the value of Rs. 1,28,342 was received in the shape of equipment and materials.

(*b*) The total amount spent by the State Government in the Malabar Coastal Area during 1955–56 is Rs. 44,924 of which Rs. 24,289 was by way of grants to local bodies.

*Floods in June-July 1956 in South Kanara*

* 296 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of persons rendered homeless in the Kasargod taluk, South Kanara district, on account of heavy rains and floods in the last week of June and first week of July 1956;

(*b*) the number of houses that collapsed;

(*c*) the extent of paddy crops destroyed; and

(*d*) the relief measures taken by the Government?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: (*a*) 47 families were affected.

(*b*) 47 houses were damaged.

(*c*) An extent of 420 acres of wet lands in Kasargod taluk and Hosdrug sub-taluk was affected by the floods and the estimated loss is reported to be Rs. 1,02,500.

(*d*) The affected persons in Kasargod taluk were immediately removed to safer places. Milk powder, vitamin tablets, rice, clothes and free cash grants were distributed to the victims. The Health staff took precautionary measures against outbreak of epidemics. Gruel centres were opened in the affected area. Takkavi loans are being granted liberally.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN: May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government have instructed the Collector of South Kanara to take permanent steps to prevent the destruction from floods which is the usual thing there every year?

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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : For the present, the Government have issued all instructions to tide over the difficulty but as regards permanent steps, probably it will be more a matter for the new State.

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : May I know what steps the Government have taken with regard to the representation from a tenant in the Cheruvathur firka who was evicted by the landlord by utilizing the occasion when floods enundated that area? That is, when the 'ulkudi'—house—where the tenant was residing had been washed away by the flood and the Government gave some financial aid for the reconstruction of the house, the landlord concerned did not permit the tenant to reconstruct the house on the same spot, thus denying the house-site to him. The matter was represented to the Government. May I know what steps the Government have taken to rehabilitate that tenant?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Surely, this sort of question requires notice.

*Shortage of cement supply*

* 297 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY AND M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the causes for the shortage in cement supply in the State during the year 1956; and

(*b*) whether any representations have been made to the Central Government to augment the supply of cement?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) Inadequate allotment of State quota by the Centre, export to other States in the Indian Union and foreign countries, and restrictions on the free movement of cement in certain sections of the Southern Railway Zone were the chief causes.

(*b*) Yes, Sir.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : May I know whether this Government have received any reply from the Central Government for their representations?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : No, Sir.

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : I agree that the Central Government have not allotted adequate quantity of cement for our State. But the situation in our State is not as though cement is not available. Even the 30 or 35 thousand tons of cement which is allotted to our State goes into the blackmarket. If one is able to pay Rs. 10 or Rs. 11 for a bag of cement as against the controlled price which is less than Rs. 6, there is no difficulty in getting any